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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, May 1, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Lord God, You are infinite, eternal, unchangeable, and the source of wisdom, holiness, goodness, and truth. Today we want to hold together two Biblical admonitions. We are told that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom but also that we are not to fear. Help us to distinguish between the humble awe and wonder that opens us to the gift of Your guidance, and the negative panic that so often grips our souls.

Give us a profound reverence in Your presence that keeps us on the knees of our hearts. May we never presume that we are adequate for a day's challenges until we have received Your strength and vision. Give us the confidence that comes from trust in Your reliability and resourcefulness. You never let us down and constantly lift us up.

Lord, liberate us from all minor fears that haunt us: the fear of hidden memories, the fear of imagined failure, and the fear of what is ahead. We may not know what the future holds, but we do know that You hold the future. In the name of Him whose constant watchword is "Fear not, I am with you!" Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, this morning the leader time has been reserved. The Senate will immediately

resume consideration of S. 534, the solid waste disposal bill.

Senators should be aware that rollcall votes will occur this morning at 10 o'clock on invoking cloture on the substitute amendment to the solid waste bill.

As a reminder, Senators will have until 10 o'clock this morning to file any second-degree amendments to the substitute. Further amendments are expected to the bill, therefore, additional rollcall votes are anticipated throughout today's session of the Senate.

The majority leader has indicated that the Senate may also be asked to turn to consideration of H.R. 483, the Medicare select bill.

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). The Senate will resume consideration of S. 534.

The clerk will report the bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 534) to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide authority for States to limit the interstate transportation of municipal solid waste, and for other purposes.

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to make an announcement concerning

hearings without regard to the pending bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FEDERAL PENSION REVIEW HEARINGS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, several months ago there was an expression of interest in the subject of congressional pension reform raised by my good friend from Nevada, Senator BRYAN. His concern about the subject, which was raised here on the floor, was supported by the majority leader, and there was concurrence that it would be appropriate to schedule hearings later in the year on this subject.

Mr. President, to address the concern raised by Senator BRYAN and the majority leader, I wish to announce that the Subcommittee on Post Office and Civil Service, which I chair, has scheduled hearings on Federal pension plans for Monday, May 15, and Monday, May 22, at 2 p.m. They will be held in room 342 of the Dirksen Building.

The May 15 hearing will be devoted to the mechanics of Federal pension plans, including their application to Congress, and a review of proposals for modifying congressional pension coverage. The May 22 hearing will be a broad discussion of Federal plans, and will include a comparison with private sector pension plans. GAO will review the considerable research which they have compiled in this area.

There are several goals to these hearings which include taking a close look at congressional pension coverage; assessing the merits of the differential between this coverage and standard Federal pension coverage; and reviewing the Federal pension systems to determine if changes need to be made which would enhance the current plans, and also protect the financial soundness of these systems.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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